



The Devil

[devil](#)

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Chapter 1 by Shadowdancer

He cracks a wild smile as he stares down upon us. He's eyes should have been red, with a pitchfork in his hand like he was the devil looking down at a threesome of victims shivering in fear below him. I should feel his invisible pointed tail moving devilishly, and then making a curved hook in the air, like planning to wrap someone's neck with it. The man's crouch was perfect for a cat, an evil cat with a taste for blood.

Samuel is shivering next to me, sweat dripping down his face and Kelly is trying not to scream at the sight, his teeth clenched. I am trying to remain calm, but my leg is involuntary shaking, and I can't keep my hand still.

The devil holds out his hand to the side, fingers pointed upward, and flexes it, like a humanoid cat flexing its claws. It seemed like his fingernails had sharpened with the action and I jump, swallowing recently. I would have soiled my pants if I could.

He looked down at us with those wild eyes, putting his sharpened hand on the edge.

"Well, well, well." He says each word like he is pleased with the sound on his tongue. "We have a few guests."

His minions laugh, but they actually sound human. They look human too, beefy men and

drunken gangsters. They must be human, or they would have looked stranger, and about as frightening as the devil standing in front of us. "We found them wandering through the forest," the bulky shaven man with tattoos around thick arms that looked like

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"What should we do with them?" The thin man with a twisted up mad face came bouncing on the other side of us, framing us in, talking in a squeaky, crackling voice.

The devil above us looked thoughtful, crouching, the sharpened hand grasping the ledge between his legs, the other strumming his cheek thoughtfully. Long tangled hair hid most of it's face.

"I don't know." The devil tilted his head, still looking at us with wide eyes. "They look so good." Kelly screamed and tried to run, but men all around us grabbed him and put him back in his place on the left side of me, holding him in place, and stuffing a rag into his mouth.

I fell to my knees. I couldn't stand up anymore, my legs were shaking so bad.

We are going to die here.

"We are seriously going to eat them?" A man from the crowd said.

The devil laughed, having to hold on to the ledge with both hands. "Of course not. I am not that mad." His eyes shined.

My voice quivered. "What- What- are you doing- to do with us?"

The devil smiled and then brought his clawed hand up to his face again. "I don't actually know. I don't feel like killing you."

"They are just kids." A different man from the crowd said.

"We should put them back." Another stepped up.

"Oh seriously." The man above us looked stunned. "I was just having a little fun. Jeez I wasn't going to hurt them."

"Then why are you scaring us then!" Samuel cried.

"Because I am slightly mad and I need to satisfy my urges in small amounts, or I get too insane for anyone's good." The devil said. "Just let me play with you a little longer."

"No," I say flattly. "Let us go."

Chapter 2 by Shadowdancer



The devil frowned, his eyes glaring down at us. "Well, you are being stubborn little prey are you."

The men around us laugh.

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"Found them wandering the grounds."

"Interesting" He looks down at me at the floor with black eyes, sending chills and involuntary squeak. "Inlanders huh?"

The devils eyes flashed to Samuel who jumped and then said. "Yessir."

"Inlanders don't typically come into the Outlands." The devil walked pass us, and we turned, to where he was looking at the white castle on the mountain in the distance. "They like staying in the Inlands, not where us criminals have been banished. Say, if you don't want to die, would you do a little favor?"

I couldn't process really what he was saying, I was too scared.

Kelly nodded, and I looked and saw Samuel nod too. "Okay."

"We'll let you go, and you have to figure out a way to open the gates for us so we can get back into the Inland." The devil looked back at us, silhouetted by the dark night and almost glowing with red. The imaginary tail flicked again. "If you don't, I will find a way to punish you. Take the offer? Or do you want to stay here forever?"

I was shivering in fear, but it sounded like the most reasonable answer possible.

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